

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

SHENG-WEN CHENG,

Plaintiff,

-against-

JAHRIL TAFARI BELL,

Defendant.

24-CV-6624 (ER)

ORDER OF SERVICE

EDGARDO RAMOS, United States District Judge:

Plaintiff, who currently is incarcerated at the Federal Medical Center in Rochester, Minnesota, brings this action, *pro se*, invoking the Court's diversity jurisdiction. By order dated October 10, 2024, the Court granted Plaintiff's request to proceed *in forma pauperis* ("IFP"), that is, without prepayment of fees.¹

Because Plaintiff has been granted permission to proceed IFP, he is entitled to rely on the Court and the U.S. Marshals Service to effect service.² *Walker v. Schult*, 717 F.3d. 119, 123 n.6 (2d Cir. 2013); *see also* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(d) ("The officers of the court shall issue and serve all process . . . in [IFP] cases."); Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(c)(3) (the court must order the Marshals Service to serve if the plaintiff is authorized to proceed IFP)).

To allow Plaintiff to effect service on Defendants Jahril Tafari Bell through the U.S. Marshals Service, the Clerk of Court is instructed to fill out a U.S. Marshals Service Process

¹ Prisoners are not exempt from paying the full filing fee even when they have been granted permission to proceed *in forma pauperis*. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1).

² Although Rule 4(m) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure generally requires that a summons be served within 90 days of the date the complaint is filed, Plaintiff is proceeding IFP and could not have effected service until the Court reviewed the complaint and ordered that any summonses be issued. The Court therefore extends the time to serve until 90 days after the date any summonses issue.

Receipt and Return form (“USM-285 form”) for Defendant. The Clerk of Court is further instructed to issue summonses and deliver to the Marshals Service all the paperwork necessary for the Marshals Service to effect service upon Defendant.

If the complaint is not served within 90 days after the date the summons is issued, Plaintiff should request an extension of time for service. *See Meilleur v. Strong*, 682 F.3d 56, 63 (2d Cir. 2012) (holding that it is the plaintiff’s responsibility to request an extension of time for service).

Plaintiff must notify the Court in writing if his address changes, and the Court may dismiss the action if Plaintiff fails to do so.

CONCLUSION

The Clerk of Court is instructed to issue a summons for Defendant, complete the USM-285 form with the address for Defendant, and deliver all documents necessary to effect service to the U.S. Marshals Service.

The Clerk of Court is directed to mail an information package to Plaintiff.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: October 17, 2024
New York, New York



EDGARDO RAMOS
United States District Judge

SERVICE ADDRESS FOR DEFENDANT

Jahril Tafari Bell
1209 42nd Place
Washington, DC 20019